

Dec. 19, 2001

Box Patent Application  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Attention: Mr. Mark Poluta

Dear Sir:

This letter is to request a filing date of 11/27/01 on my patent application, appn. # 10/002763 entitled "Picking Rake".

Last Nov. 27, 2001, I went to the post office with the intention of mailing my application via Express Mail so that I could get an instant filing date of 11/27/01. However, I was informed that Express Mail service to the patent offices was temporarily suspended due to the recent anthrax scare. They suggested that I just send it by priority mail which I reluctantly did, having no other choice. I also placed on one of the transmittal forms a couple of yellow post-it notes that the post office provided. I indicated on the post-it notes that since there was no Express Mail service to your address that day, I was advised to send the application by priority mail instead and that I <sup>also</sup> requested an instant filing date of 11/27/01.

The 11/27/01 filing date is crucial for me because I am claiming the benefit of a provisional patent application ser. # 60/253.552 filed 11/28/00.

A copy of the dated priority mail receipt is printed on this letter.

Thank you for your consideration.

**U.S. Postal Service Delivery Confirmation Receipt**

Delivery Confirmation Number: 10304 7990 0004 6146 6601

Postage and Delivery Confirmation fees must be paid before mailing.

Article Sent To: (to be completed by mailer)

BOX PATENT APPLICATION  
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HOUGHTON  
Postmark  
NOV 27  
2001  
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Respectfully yours,

Mary Ann Caneba  
(Applicant)

Title of Invention: Picking Rake

Application No. 10/002763

Address: 302 W. Jacker Av.  
Houghton, MI. 49931  
Tel. No. (906)482-6954



Receipt of

Jan. 14, 2002

Office of Initial Patent Examination  
Customer Service Center  
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Patent Application No. 10/002,763

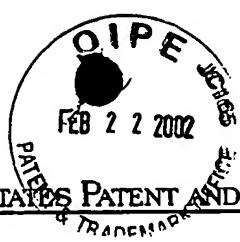
Dear Sir/Ma'am:

I am writing to request for a consideration of a different filing date of 11/27/01 for the above patent application in place of the 12/05/01 shown on the attached copy of my filing receipt. The reasons are explained in a letter that I faxed last Dec. 19 to Mr. Mark Poluta. A copy of that letter is attached for your reference. Mr. Poluta is currently helping to push my case through.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,  
Mary Ann Caneca  
Mary Ann Caneca  
(applicant)  
302 W. Jackson Ave  
Houghton, MI 49931  
(906) 487-1452

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY.DOCKET.NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/002,763	12/05/2001 11/27/2001	3671	508		73	26	5

CONFIRMATION NO. 7470

FILING RECEIPT



\*OC000000007259842\*

MARY ANN N. CANEBA  
302 W. JACKER AVE.  
HOUGHTON, MI 49931

Date Mailed: 01/03/2002

Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).

**Applicant(s)**

Mary Ann Caneba, Houghton, MI;

**Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant**

THIS APPLN CLAIMS BENEFIT OF 60/253,552 11/28/2000

**Foreign Applications**

If Required, Foreign Filing License Granted 01/03/2002

Projected Publication Date: Request for Non-Publication Acknowledged

Non-Publication Request: Yes

Early Publication Request: No

\*\* SMALL ENTITY \*\*

**Title**

Picking rake

**Preliminary Class**

056